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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 661**

Offered January 11, 2017 Prefiled January 10, 2017

Commending the Bobcat Sports League.

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Patron—Carr

WHEREAS, for 10 years, the Bobcat Sports League in Richmond has provided local youth with the opportunity to enjoy the game of soccer and learn about the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the Bobcat Sports League was founded in 2007 by Robyn Parsons and Dr. William Fleming to provide young people in Southside Richmond with an outlet for positive recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Bobcat Sports League has served more than 2,000 young people; in addition to learning the fundamentals of soccer, participants receive antigang and antiviolence information and instruction on proper nutrition and the hazards of smoking and drug use; and

WHEREAS, the Bobcat Sports League involves the parents and friends of local youth as they come to support and cheer on their loved ones, creating a sense of community cohesiveness; and

WHEREAS, the Bobcat Sports League also offers swimming as part of its program in addition to nutrition counseling to both parents and children in an effort to combat the national epidemic of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, volunteers with the Bobcat Sports League operate a thrift and consignment shop, the proceeds of which go toward equipment and educational materials for area youth; and

WHEREAS, the Bobcat Sports League has taken a proactive approach to dealing with neighborhood concerns, creating a positive environment, and helping empower young people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Bobcat Sports League on the occasion of its 10th anniversary in 2017; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robyn Parsons and Dr. William Fleming, the founders of the Bobcat Sports League, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the League's contributions to the community.